

A

# REVIEW

OF THE

# STATE

OF THE

# BRITISH NATION.

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Saturday, January 13. 1711

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**H**AVING in my last, plac'd my self at a distance, one would think, large enough from the World, to be out of the reach of Humane Mallice; I hope now I may say any Thing and not give Offence, for was ever any Man so Foolish to Concern himself with what the Man in the Moon says?

I told you in my last, something that I observ'd last Time I went up to the Lunar Regions, relating to Winds, and how the Winds were only a Numerous Army of Winged Horsemen, under the Command of their great General, who as he thought fit, March'd them on, all in one Body Judicially, which I call'd Tem-

pest; or sent them out in Parties, as he found Reason to make some small Detachments of them, for the common use of Nature, in the Execution of which Commands, they never grow weary, and the Motto of their Diligence, is written upon the Wings of every particular one, thus, *Non Indiget Calcaribus.*

But besides these, I cannot omit to tell you, I saw a small Party of this Flying Cavalry, plac'd by themselves: who were always Employ'd in Politicks, and I wonder'd not a little, when I found that these seem'd of a different kind — from the rest — They were always Cloath'd in Darkness, Arm'd with innumerable Mischiefs.

chiefs, Cover'd with a Cloud of Sulphurous Smoak, and smelt of the Infernals; they had a particular Commander of their own, whose Aspect I Thought, was something Terrible....

The Sight of these, put me presently in Mind of one, who I had read was *Prince of the Power of the Air* — And I found, he had very great Power to raise Storms, Tempests, and Hurricanes in the World, among the Affairs of Nations and Kingdoms, tho' his Power of raising ordinary Storms, or any Way Influencing the General Body of the Cavalry aforesaid, did not appear — Looking more narrowly to him, I found, to my great Satisfaction, he horrid Monster was Chain'd, and had Limitations put to his Power, which he could not go beyond —

The Comfortable Sight of this, made me very easie, when I saw the Influence he was permitted to have over Things in the World; since *ne plus ultra*, was written as the *Mene Tekel upon the Wall*; on the last Link of his Chain; if it were useful to describe the Devil, I might read you an Anatomical Lecture upon his Shapes, but as the Proceedings which both his Person, and his Power are known by, will best describe him, I defer it.

This Monster was a General of Horse in the great Army aforesaid, and he had his Detachments of these Horsemen which he sent out from every Quarter, to Huff, and Bluster, and make Mischief in the World, of whom I may say the more, because I have had some View of their Performance in the World.

It may be of some use to assure the World here, that the Notions we have of the Devil being Master of Winds in General, that he can cause them to blow from what Corner, and to what Degree of Fury he pleases — That he disposes of Winds to his Deputies in *Norway, Lapland, &c.* and empowers them to sell them out to the Mariners, as the *Pope* does Pardons; these, I say, are all vulgar Errors — For in the Regions I speak of, where every Thing is seen in its proper Shape, and by

an unerring Sight, as well as unerring Light, these Delusions are of no Force.

Here the Devil is not seen by Apparition, and that Apparition be four fifth parts of it Imagination, Fancy has no Share in the Cheat here, and the Sight having no Mediums of Delusion to put the Fraud upon the Opticks, *Sathan* appears in his own Native Posture, of which in its Course; I may give you a farther Account, but as it serves to my present purpose, to Discourse of him in his Office of General of the Horse, as aforesaid, in the great Army of the Vapour-born Fury above, I shall, at present, only consider him in that Capacity.

The black Brigade he Commands here, as they are separated, as I hinted before, from the great Body of Horse I first mention'd, which we, in these lower Worlds call *Winds*, so they are adapted for uses more refin'd, and which to bring to pass the wise Ends of the Devil's Maker, they are put for a Season, and with strong Restrictions, into his Hand — And he has a kind of Permissive Mission to the Evils he brings to pass by them — Yet here we may observe And I wish the Honest People, that are so intimidated at the Cunning of this Roaring Beast, call'd *Sathan*, were to take a Tour a little thus beyond the World, that they might see it too; I say here we observe, That the Devil, as *Subtle* as he is reported to be, is indeed but a very silly Fellow — He raises Storms, and Ferments in Nations, in Families, in Parties, with a View and Design to Affront Heaven, and put the whole World into Confusion, and promising to himself to bring it to pass; whereas, had the foolish Devil but two Grains of Sense, he might know, that Heaven has made LEGAL PROVISIONS against his Arbitrary Designs, which he can never overthrow; That all the Angels of Heaven are Employ'd vigorously and Successfully to withstand him; That they have Commands to Resist him again, *When, and by whatsoever Means, he can Meditate a Return*; and that he can never expect to succeed in his Designs against the Constitution of the World, which he would fain overthrow; for that ever since the



the Revolution in Heaven, when *Lucifer* and all his Angels *Abdicated* the Place, such Limitations (*Parliamentary*) have been put upon his Power, by the same Hand that made him a Devil, that it is impossible he should ever Succeed in his Attempt.

And yet this Foolish High Flying Devil will never give over the Attempt, Condemn'd by his Native Tory Malice, to be like *Sisyphus*, ever rowling this heavy Stone up the Hill which is sure to rowl back upon him again, by its Native Weight; this Folly of the Devil could not but put me in Mind of what I remember to have observ'd, when I was in the lower World, of the Folly and Absurdity of Tories and High Flyers in my own Country, who tho' they knew the Brazen Walls of the Revolution were Erected upon a Foundation never to be Overthrown; that all the Honest People in the Nation, were Embark'd to Support and Defend it, and that it was impossible that ever that Foundation could be Legally or Parliamtentarily Undermin'd, yet should with restless Labour, vain Hopes, and most absurd Folly flatter themselves, that even the *Parliament* could ever restore their Cause; and against Reason as well as against Nature, Act to their own Destruction.

Just thus the Devil Acts, no doubt 'tis a part of his Condemnation, who knowing that he is restrain'd by infinite Power, yet can entertain Hopes, and lay Designs against that very Infinite Power which God cannot permit to Succeed, without ceasing to be God, and demitting the Throne of Heavenly Glory in Favour of the Devil, who is the Pretender.

Would any Thing but an Isolated Devil Act thus? Or would any Thing but a High Flyer imitate him in it? — Is this his Cunning? Indeed, till now, I took the Devil for a Politician, but as soon as I came to look about me here, in this remote Region, it appears plainly to me, the Devil's an Ass, a meer Fool, as Senseless as a High Flyer, and like the Tories I mention'd, is Condemn'd to be what some of our Beasts have, no doubt, borrow'd from his Character, an *Eternal Concomb*.

But to return to the Troop, this great Officer Commands, and which, as I noted, are plac'd in a separate Body, and always Encamp by themselves — He is ever busie with them, and sending them out in Parties, their Motion like the rest, makes what we call WIND, and as they are directed by him, they Act very punctually his Errand, do his Will, and Execute his Orders with a most Infernal Accuracy and Exactness.

HERE he sends a Troop of them directed to any part of the Nation he has a Mind to Ruin, and bids them enter the People; presently in that Nation, you find the Wind of Faction blows, Tumult, Rebellion, Rabbles, and all manner of Disorders follow, to the Overthrowing of Law, Justice, Liberty, and Government itself — THERE he sends a Party of them out, and bids them take Orders from the Clergy immediately, look to that Nation, the Wind of Persecution rises, Storms and Tempests blow and rage in the Streets, against Dissenters; Thunder and Lightning breaks out from the Pulpit, against Toleration, Moderation, and Union; Blood and Murder Rages in Scotland against Presbyterians; and Oh! how the Clergy Exert themselves in all! — If the Fiend Detaches a Squadron to the Court — The Wind of Ambition rises immediately, People fall into Parties, the Court breezes blow here Gently, which we call Favour, there Fiercely, which we call Resentment; the Country Gale then rises, which always blows hard upon the Court, and often Shipwrecks Favourites upon the Lee Shoar of their own Designs, sometimes it Splits Men upon the Rocks of their Ambition, and sometimes, by shifting and turning to Windward to avoid the Ruin they foresee, they run themselves aground on the Sands and Shoals of Time-serving and Compliance.

To all such, I would, if they could hear me at this distance say, Honest Men always venture to Ride out the Storm — They know 'tis rais'd by the Devil, that tho' his Rage is great, his Time is but short, and it is far more Honourable to put out to Sea, tho' they should Founder and Sink, than

to take in their Sails, and give up themselves to be tamely run on Shore by weak Compliances, half-Fac'd Honesty, and Cowardly despair.

## ADVERTISEMENT.

*For the Head Ach Vapours, &c.*

**A** Fam'd Snuff, whose Virtues are experientially known to the Comfort and Satisfaction of many in the most racking Pains of the Head; the incomparable Virtues of this Snuff, and the Importance of many well acquainted with its Virtues, hath Engag'd its Publication, that the many Thousands fatigu'd with that troublesome discomforting disordering Pain of the Head, may know where to have a Remedy, not only for the Head ach, but for all Weaknesses of the Eyes, as Inflammations, &c. For tho' it is of an exceeding fine fragrant Scent, and leaves an excellent Flavour in the Head, yet is really known to be a very great Comforter of the Brain, exceeding good in all Cases of Vapours, as Giddiness, Swimmings, &c. Cures Vertigos, Megrims, prevents Apoplexies, is used and admir'd by Gentlemen, Ladies, &c. Yet that all may have the Benefit of this Snuff, it is sold in Tin Boxes but for 1 s. 6 d. each Box, seal'd up with Printed Directions (which will last some Months) at Mrs. Dring's a Picture Shop, next Door to the Leg Tavern in Fleetstreet; and at Mr. Halsey's, Book-seller, at the Plough and Harrow near the Royal Exchange in Cornhill. Allowance by Wholesale, into the Country, &c.

**W**HEREAS Many Persons, that some Months or perhaps Years past, had the Misfortune to get the first Degree of the Venereal Disease, and have still remaining upon them, a small Weakness, altho the Malignity and other Symptoms of the aforesaid Distemper are perfectly overcome

and eradicated; which Weakness is very dangerous, and if not perfectly stop'd, certainly ruins the Constitution, and proves of dreadful Consequence to the unhappy Patients; and that it is very difficult to be entirely cur'd, and seldom is taken off by many of the Practitioners in the said Disease, (tho' Ingenious Men) the most eminent Physicians do allow. This is therefore to give Notice, that One of great Practice, and very large Experience, having some Years since found out admirable Medicines, that in a few Days always did, and assuredly ever will, without Delay, safely Cure and stop any such Weakness, &c. tho' of many Years standing, so as never to return again, has now for the Sake of those unfortunate Persons, that are fatigued with that troublesome and mischievous Disorder, and have spent perhaps many Pounds to get cur'd, but in vain, appointed the above-mentioned Excellent Medicines, establish'd upon Reason, and always successful Experience, and which will absolutely compleat the Cure, so as not to break out again; to be sold only at Mr. Salkeld's, at the Blue Posts, next Door to Mr. Tonson's Printing House, in Earl's Court in Bow Street, near Covent Garden — At a Guinea the Parcel seal'd up with a little Book of Directions; wherein are also set down plain Rules whereby any Person may certainly know whether the Venom or Malignancy of this Distemper, be entirely eradicated or no.

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